

Abstract Form

Abstract is to be typed in a 10 point font/typeface (Times Roman preferred) and must fit in the space below; additional pages may not be submitted.

FOR REVIEWER USE

- 1 2 3 4 +

Reviewer's signature**FOR OFFICE USE**

Date: _____

Time: _____

TITLE:**SOLUTIONS TO A CRISIS:**

Examining Public Attitudes Toward Organ-Tissue Donation

Abstract**DESCRIPTION OF ACTIVITY:**

Background: Examination of students' attitudes about organ donation knowledge, personal decision, family communication, public education, discrimination, rapid organ recovery, presumed consent, and mandated choice.

Methods: A written survey was given to 516 students, at least 18 years of age or older, at the Philadelphia College of Pharmacy and Science (PCPS), during various classes and asked to be completed voluntarily and anonymously.

Conclusions: Individuals fail to consider donation and feel that the public is improperly educated on this topic. We cannot allow a lack of education to limit our supply of potential donors. Educational efforts, involving the community must be implemented to solve this dilemma. Further, the support for mandated choice suggests that we revamp the present system and try to solve this crisis.

DESCRIPTION OF EVALUATION (if completed, provide results):

Results: Fifty-four percent of respondents had given previous consideration to organ donation, but 63% stated a desire to become a donor. Nineteen percent had a donor card or sticker affixed to their driver's license. Communication was not prevalent with 36% of the individuals. Communicating their wishes to their family member's decision. Ninety-two percent of respondents felt that public education was inadequate and almost half (47%) felt that the donation process was not fair to all people. There was mixed support (56% for and 42% against) for rapid organ recovery; little support (21% for and 78% against) for full presumed consent; and substantial support (79% for and 18% against) for mandated choice.

FAX 713 796 - 6828

CONTACT: Joye M. Carter, M.D. Harris County Chief
Name: Joye M. Carter Title/Affiliation: Medical Examiner

713 796-6789
Phone: February 26, 1998